



Council on Child
Safety and
Family Empowerment

GOVERNOR DUCEY'S OFFICE OF YOUTH, FAITH AND FAMILY
COUNCIL ON CHILD SAFETY AND FAMILY EMPOWERMENT

AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SUBCOMMITTEE

DRAFT

July 20, 2018
10:00 AM

1700 West Washington Street Suite 230
Conference Room A
Phoenix, AZ 85007

*A general meeting of the African American Children and Families Subcommittee was convened on May 18, 2018,, at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith, and Family, Suite 230, Conference Room B, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007.
Notice having been duly given.*

| Members Present (5) | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Roy Dawson, Chair | |
| George Khalaf | |
| Judy Krysik | |
| Linda Morris | |
| Teresa Toney | |
| Members Absent (3) | Staff/Guests Present (2) |
| Leslie Reprogle | Malcolm Hightower |
| Ben Robinson | Melisha Bryant |
| Julie O'Dell | |

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Roy Dawson, Chair, called the African American Children and Families Subcommittee meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. with five members and two staff present and three members absent.

2. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Dawson, Chair, welcomed everyone again, and asked all members to introduce themselves.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Dawson, Chair, requested a review of the April 20, 2018, meeting minutes. Motioned by Judy and seconded by George. The minutes were passed with one revision with no dissenting votes.

4. Discussion of Plans for Community Meeting

Mr. Dawson provided an outline for asked for members to consider the following:

- A. Framework:** Committee decided to table this subject until further development of project needs and goals.
- B. Topics:** Committee discussed which risk factors would drive the project. All decided focusing on disproportionality in removal would be the topic of focus groups and outcomes.
- C. Methodology:** Mr. Dawson and Mr. Khalaf mentioned relying on Dr. Judy Krysik's expertise in developing or utilizing evidenced-based methodology. Some discussion took place focus group formatting and delivery. Ms. Toney stressed the importance of finding the right focus group facilitators. Mr. Dawson asked for more clarification of the standard format of focus groups and if they have a set topic and questions. The group collectively affirmed that was so. Ms. Toney recommended starting focus group conversations with context that everyone can relate to and preface goals and tangible deliverables so that people feel like they have made a difference. Mr. Dawson mentioned he would like focus group and surveys to capture how people really feel and the data is not lost in translation/transcribing. It was discussed that Dr. Krysik would find out what has already been done by other organizations. Mr. Khalaf asked if there is a budget for this project. Dr. Krysik asked what the committee would do with a budget. Mr. Khalaf itemized costs associated with facilitating focus groups such as facility fees, recording focus group, promotion materials, food, etc. He suggested looking into procuring a basic grant from an organization and looking for ways to gather in-kind contributions. Mr. Khalaf noted that most well-funded education projects are funded by Helios foundations, however none are in African American communities. He surmised that the organization may be waiting for proposal for a project that specifically targets the African American communities so long as the focus and outcomes were around education. Mr. Dawson added that most grantors do not fund projects in predominantly African American communities or that impact African American children and families. Ms. Toney mentioned the foster care grant for students to go to college and suggested there may be an opportunity for Helios foundation to fund scholarships for foster care children. Dr. Krysik advised the committee to focus on data collection and meeting format before funding. She added that it would be best to plan and prepare a proposal first and then make a request for funding from various sponsors.
- D. Invitees:** Ms. Teresa Toney suggested the committee begin planning with determining who the committee will invite to the community meetings and focus groups. Mr. George Khalaf suggested meeting with providers and participants. Dr. Krysik asked for clarification of providers. Mr. Khalaf suggested providers such as teachers, churches, etc. Ms. Teresa Toney suggested inviting strategic compilation of invitees i.e. judges, law enforcement agencies, teachers, parents, lawyers. Dr. Krysik suggested having stakeholder interviews for those who do not attend focus groups. Mr. Khalaf asked if committee expected certain providers to be forthcoming and honest in their responses to focus group questions. Ms. Toney replied that if given the opportunity and space to express in confidentiality, people are more likely to be honest. Ms. Linda Morris asked if the committee should consider those who may not be willing to articulate true concerns. Dr. Krysik commented that small focus groups will allow for a broader more diverse range of responses. Mr. Dawson emphasized creating a non-intimidating environment. Dr. Krysik stressed that the committee will need to be able to answer the question, 'what will be done with information gathered?' Ms. Morris suggested the AZ Zip Code Project representatives as invitees due to the fact that they are already in the community and

doing much of the work the committee is seeking to do and/or gather information from. Mr. Dawson asked the committee to clarify who would be considered a provider. The committee agreed that any person or entity that provides direct service or resources to families involved in the foster care system would be considered a provider this includes policy makers, providers by contract or organization, advocates foster family providers, etc. Mr. Dawson then asked for the committee to clarify who is considered a participant. The committee agreed that birth and foster families, children, and aged-out youth and adults are participants. Dr. Krysik asked if the committee members knew of any existing groups that are meeting with the families. The committee did not answer this question directly. Dr. Krysik asked if the committee's geographical areas of focus were defined. Mr. Dawson replied and that they were not yet defined and then asked if the issue of removal geographical? Dr. Krysik responded that the issue is geographical based on research. Mr. Khalaf suggested the committee focus on the zip codes that were indicated to have the three highest rates of early childhood removal in Maricopa County. Dr. Krysik and Ms. Morris identified the top three zip codes most at-risk for children under the age of three being removed from their homes are in Glendale, Laveen, and South Phoenix. Glendale and Laveen were highest for young children (0-3) being removed and South Phoenix #3-5. Mr. Dawson asked if the search only based on age? Dr. Krysik replied that removal is the important factor that should steer the committees efforts to identify invitees and she added that children ages 0-3 are the most vulnerable population. Mr. Dawson agreed. The committee agreed to facilitate focus groups in top 3 zip codes for removal. The committee discussed how to best identify service providers in those zip codes or who provide services in those zip codes for focus groups. The committee emphasized the providers invitees should include churches. kinship care providers, grandparents raising children, DCS workers, family preservation providers, parent aides, etc. Due to time, Mr. Khalaf suggested scheduling a longer meeting to address full outline. Ms. Toney suggested having subgroup meetings to refine the committee's project and develop a proposal. Mr. Dawson mentioned that subcommittee can meet as often as necessary, but if there is quorum the meeting must be open to the public and posted. Dr. Krysik suggested the committee divide work among committee members and report back to group. All agreed.

E. Promotion Methods: TBD upon completion of project proposal

F. Collaborators: Mr. Khalaf asked who the committee should seek out as strategic collaborators to partner with in order to facilitate focus groups, record, store, and analyze data, etc. He suggested collaborating with the Zip Code Project could help with methodology and access to relevant data. All committee members agreed that the goal of collaborations should include documenting the process and outcomes to share as a model. Mr. Dawson commented that there are a great amount of people who want to help including some organizations that are well hailed and well-known and have a good amount of resources to offer. He posed the question, "Do we want to ask for co-sponsors?" and suggested ASU child development center. Mr. Khalaf recommended Mr. Dawson's organization as the main collaborator. Mr. Dawson agreed. Mr. Dawson mentioned that there has yet to be a subcommittee chair meeting and no indication that subcommittees are driving towards one goal on behalf of the Council on Child Safety and Family Empowerment. Mr. Dawson noted that he believes the council will endorse the work of this subcommittee but wants to make it official by presenting a project proposal and receiving approval to move forward with planning and implementation. Mr. Dawson suggested having Judge McNally come talk to subcommittee to share a perspective that is not always considered such as

the judges caseload and interaction with family. The committee agreed to table this discussion until additional time was allotted.

G. Month and Date for 1st community meeting: October (tentatively)

5. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The subcommittee will not be meeting in the month of August

a. September 21, 2018

6. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Dawson, Chair, noted there was no public present.

7. ADJOURN

Mr. Dawson, Chair, called for adjournment at 11:22 AM.

Dated July 20, 2018

Arizona Council on Child Safety and Family Empowerment
African American Children & Families Subcommittee

Respectfully Submitted By:

Terrilyn Miller

Director of Faith & Community Initiatives, GOYFF